

Attorney Docket: 081468-0305313  
Client Reference: P-0310.020-US



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re PATENT APPLICATION of:  
DIERICHS et al.

Confirmation Number: 1005

Application No.: 10/784,895

Group Art Unit: 2851

Filed: February 24, 2004

Examiner: Fuller, Rodney Evan

Title: LITHOGRAPHIC APPARATUS, AND DEVICE MANUFACTURING METHOD

**COMMENTS ON EXAMINER'S STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE**

Mail Stop Issue Fee  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Applicant confirms with appreciation the receipt of the Notice of Allowability for the above-identified application.

In reply to the Examiner's reasons for allowance in this application, Applicant respectfully submits that the subject matter of the allowed claims are patentable for their respective recitations of claimed combinations as a whole, without any particular criticality or distinguishing feature being attributable to any one or more of such features, and without any narrowing interpretation being imposed on any of such features. As such, Applicant respectfully submits that no one element or limitation in particular should be deemed to impart to or be required for patentability of the claims.

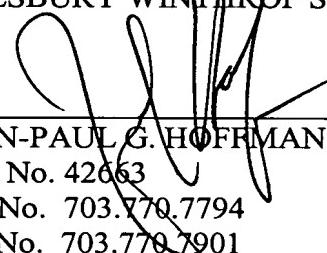
Furthermore, Applicant respectfully submit that the independent claims are all separately patentable from each other and are patentable for the subject matter specifically recited as a whole in each of those claims. Applicant also submits that the dependent claims are allowable for their dependence on the allowed independent claims and further for the additional subject matter recited in each of those dependent claims.

These comments are being filed concurrently with payment of the Issue Fee.

Please charge any fees, if any, associated with the submission of this paper to Deposit Account Number 033975 (Ref. No. 081468-0305313). The Commissioner for Patents is also authorized to credit any over payments to the above-referenced Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

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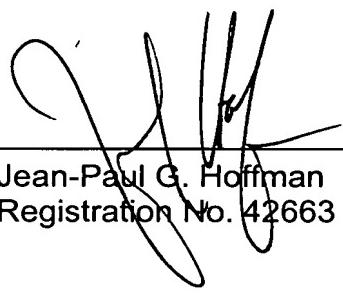
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**Commissioner for Patents**  
**P.O. Box 1450**  
**Alexandria, VA 22313-1450**

**TRANSMITTAL OF FORMAL DRAWINGS**

Attached are nine (9) replacement drawing sheets (Figures 1-14B) for this application. Please substitute these formal drawing figures for the corresponding figures on file in the above-identified application.

Date: November 29, 2006  
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